



Rural Fire Commission

598 Saluda Road
Chester, South Carolina 29706

September 27th, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Mike Walley and opened in prayer Beard at 6:30 pm.

Commission Members Present: Martin, Beard, Hudson, Walley and Trowell

Departments Present: Fort Lawn, Leeds and Richburg

Special Guests: None

Motion by Beard, second by Trowell to approve agenda, with amendments, motion passed

Motion by Martin, second by Beard to approve the minutes, motion passed

Citizens Comments:

John Agee- the county does not purchase brush trucks.830 blew a tire coming back from a call. The fire departments are purchasing old trucks and we must rehab them. Rural fire needs to start checking on these trucks. John will be asking his board to buy a new chassis. We need to look at the Carolina Poly insurance claim. We need to approach the council if we can't get Carolina Poly to pay for stuff. Richburg is currently at 900 calls for the year. He also thanked everyone for their help at the ATI cabin fire.

Fire Coordinators report:

Meghan Brewer- truck and ladder testing went well. All the departments were a tremendous help with shuttling apparatus and equipment. Everything that was tested passed. 610 is going to get tested in Lancaster because it was out of service during our testing. Engine 312 is in the shop with a bad fuel pump. Barkley and I will be at the IAAI fire investigation conference in Myrtle Beach from 10/17-10/22. Only Barkley or I should be contacting our repair vendors for updates and repairs, no exceptions. If you have questions about your trucks, call the office.

Mike Walley- please send a letter to all the fire departments thanking them for the help during ladder and pump testing. Also include in the letter a reminder about calling the fire office for updates on truck repairs, not the vendors themselves.

Old Business:

Truck rotation list- we may not need to vote on the city fire department being on the truck rotation list. There was a vote on this in 9/2017. Are we going stand by it?

Michael Waits- is the truck rotation list on only county purchased trucks or all trucks.



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Chariman Walley- the list in on county trucks. The city does not have any county owned vehicles with the exceptions of the tanker chasis. Do we know if the city wants to be on the pumper list, tanker list or both?

After much discussion, the city will be put on both lists in the order of what is deemed necessary due to age and condition.

Number of trucks per department on insurance list- It will stay as is for now. We do need to go to county council for additional funding for the trucks. We need each member of the commission to approach their council member and let them know we are in dire need of additional funding. We need to at least triple the current funding.

John Agee- we need to start going to the budget meetings in mass. If you want change, you need to facilitate it.

Chiefs Association- Dr Frederick had a scheduling conflict and could not attend last meeting, he will be at October's meeting.

Matching Grants- there is currently an understanding that any department wanting matching funds for grants, need to come before the commission before approaching the council. We need to find out if this is an actual policy or not. The fire coordinators office will find out and get back to the commission at the next meeting.

Fort Lawn and South Chester would like to approach the council to obtain matching funds for the SC Forestry grant. They are requesting various items.

Motion by Martin, second by Beard to allow Fort Lawn and South Chester to approach council for matching funds for the SC Forestry Grant. Motion passed.

Beard motions, Martin seconds to adjourn meeting, motion passed

Meeting adjourned 19:27